

**MINUTES  
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

**Tuesday, March 6, 2007, 6:00 p.m.  
McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street**

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Bob Bent, Keith Clay, Christine Glaser, John Hamilton, George Huntington, Cairril Mills, Dave Rollo, Catherine Stafford, Toby Strout, Paul Sullivan, John West

Regrets: Jeff Mease

Staff Present: Danise Alano, Director of Economic Development  
Mike Steinhoff, Service Corps Intern  
Jenny Sumner, Service Corps Intern

**Call to Order/Approval of Minutes**

John Hamilton called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. John West moved to approve the January meeting minutes, seconded by Cairril Mills. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**Public Comment**

- Paul Schneller recommended that BCOS view a presentation by Norman Garrick regarding transportation infrastructure. Garrick's presentation is available from CATS on DVD.
- Steve Forrest of Bloomington Transportation Options for People (BTOP) commented on the West 2<sup>nd</sup> St Corridor project and the parking study commissioned by the City. He commented that building extra lanes in the West 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Corridor is only a short term solution. The decision to build extra lanes will require a large initial investment and the impact will last for decades. Steve will be following the process and returning to BCOS meetings to follow up. Steve also commented that the parking study did not use the word "sustainable" once.
- Jay Heeter of the IU Environmental Law Society commented on their upcoming event featuring speaker Jeff Riegel on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Commission members are encouraged to attend, and the Education Committee will help with outreach.
- April 14<sup>th</sup> will be the Step It Up event at Showers.

**Heather Reynolds, 2007 Environmental Commission Chair**

Heather provided an update of what the EC will be working on this year. Several of the EC projects overlap with BOCS efforts, including Education and Greenhouse Gas reduction. There are possible collaborations with a new Green Building Committee. Christine mentioned that there is no entity to be proactive about commenting on city planning. This is another possible joint committee.

### **Parking Report**

Cairril encourages neighborhood associations to comment on the parking report. Danise explained that the City commissioned Walker Consulting to look at on street and garage parking. Walker Consulting has issued a preliminary report that is open to public comment. A final report with recommendations should be available in the next couple weeks. The City has asked Walker Consulting to include recommendations on a parking garage, but that was not included in the preliminary report. After the final report is issued, there will be community feedback, and then the City will need to figure out which recommendations to implement, probably by the June budget retreat.

Keith commented that he hopes the City does not backpedal when citizens disagree with the report, the way they did with the Parks and Rec commissioned study.

Danise suggested that it would be appropriate for BCOS to comment on the report.

### **Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)**

Dave commented that there is a City Council session tomorrow where Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) will be decided. BCOS should comment on the process of CDBG grantmaking. There is less funding available now (\$740,000 down from 1.1 million) so there needs to be a set of principles or a hierarchy to determine who gets funding. We'll ask Lisa Abbott and or the Redevelopment Commission to present to us next time on CDBG and the grantmaking process.

### **IU Task Force on Campus Sustainability**

Keith commented that IU has now established a Task Force on Campus Sustainability, which Paul Sullivan is co-chairing. Keith is a faculty representative and Jenny is a graduate student representative.

### **New Members**

Paul Sullivan is a new member of BCOS. He serves as Deputy Vice President for Administration and works for Terry Clapacs. He works with the numerous facilities on campus, dealing with the backroom operations of IU. He is co-chair with Michael Hamburger of the new Task Force on Campus Sustainability, which includes faculty, students, and staff. Paul hopes to discuss all issues openly.

### **Organizational Goals**

- Get the Indicators Report out. Continue work with initiatives, education, partnerships and resources, and the ad hoc work on energy. John H. called for all members to join a committee.
- Beverly Calendar-Anderson will facilitate a retreat. The group took a few minutes to write on note-cards what they thought the outcome of the retreat should be.

### **Staff Report**

- Danise introduced the Informatics group that is working on a class project to assess where Bloomington is on sustainability, to promote public awareness of sustainability, and inform government policy on sustainability. Their class project is to create a design solution related to those issues. The group would like to

- conduct focus groups with 5 or so interested BCOS members in late March, about the big picture of sustainability. The group is also doing 30 hours of service learning with Change a Light, indicators work, and with Cairril's presentations.
- Utilities Department and Animal Care and Control were recognized as leading businesses that employ Stone Belt employees.
- Danise will send out the "Be Bloomington" monthly themes so that BCOS can tailor events around them. BCOS can make suggestions for 2008 monthly themes.

## **Committee Reports**

### ***Indicators:***

The report is progressing and Mike is waiting on IRBC data. Danise says the data is there and she will work with them. John H. mentioned that we should pay special attention to the instructive paragraphs. Mike will bring a draft for mock-up to the next commission meeting.

### ***Initiatives:***

- CAL*-we will put off until April to coordinate with the Step it Up event on April 14<sup>th</sup>. John H. met with Duke contacts and we will work with them for a joint commitment. Toby and Christine will also help with the effort. Matt Wysocki was a suggested contact as well. Also, Jenny gave an update to Team Green on the campaign.
- Tour*-Keith met with Cathy Moore and they decided to focus this year's tour on local food. They will have 6-8 stops on the tour. The event would be in May or June on a Saturday, leaving from the Farmers' Market. The next step is to contact individuals specifically to determine their interest in hosting.
- Logo*-John H. developed a letter to send out to local design firms. However, Toby pointed out that Middle Way used the art department at IU and got very good results.

### ***Education:***

- The Education Committee had 33 people at January's Energy Seminar and 40 at the February Seminar. In addition to the monthly Energy seminar, Energy Wise Construction will be speaking at the Library on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30pm. It was decided to sponsor this event, with a message before the seminar saying that BCOS does not endorse a particular business.
- The Education Committee is working with Stephanie Kimbell to help organize Step It Up on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor will be speaking, and Baron Hill has been invited.
- It might be helpful to have a computer and projector to use for presentations. There have been technical issues in the past. This might be something for the Partnerships and Resources Committee to look into.
- Sustainability 101- Cairril presented to the noon Rotary club, stressing the message that changes don't have to be complicated, just creative. Cairril is also

developing a list of resources for Monroe County Public Library. If commission members have resources they would recommend, send them to Cairril.

***Partnerships and Resources:***

- The Partnerships and Resources Committee helped have an impact on the Mayor's new appointments. The Committee is also developing a database of potential contacts and commission members should submit contact information (email and phone) for individuals that might be useful in future BCOS efforts. Danise will email the electronic form to everyone.
- Catherine also mentioned that the United Way has a comprehensive resource for grants. Although sustainability is not a hot category, but by doing a key word search we can target our efforts. IU has performed a search for the Franklin Initiative before. Paul will look into this for BCOS.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

## Bloomington Environmental Commission Goals & Priorities for 2007

Chair: *Reynolds*, Vice Chair: *Boatman*, Secretary/Treasurer: *Tosick*, Staff Coordinator: *Pezzullo*

Interns: *Becky Barrick*, *Alex Shroyer*

Council/BCOS Liason: *Dave Rollo*

### Current EC Committees

- Steering (*Reynolds, Piedmont, Boatman, Pezzullo*)
- Budget (*Trout, Tosick, Pezzullo*)
- Planning Committee (*Litwin, Boatman, Reynolds*)
- BEQI (*Piedmont, Reynolds, Tosick*)
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction (*Piedmont, Tosick, Moore*)
- Education (*Lindberg, Moore, Trout, Pezzullo*)
- Green Building (*McGlasson, Tosick, Reynolds, Bauer*)

### Major Projects

- Natural Landscaping
  - Brochure & Fact Sheets, Press Release, H-T Editorial, City Council Presentation
- Greenspace
  - Integrate updated Greenspace Report onto BEQI website, Press Release, H-T Editorial, City Council Presentation
- Green Building
  - Green Building Ordinance, Press Release, H-T Editorial, City Council Presentation
  - Begin work on Green Building Local Resource Guide

### Events

- Energy Forums (Education Committee)
- Earth Week (Education Committee)
- (Attend) Randall Arendt Presentation (Green Building Committee)
- Simply Living Fair/Bioneers (Education Committee)

### Other/On-going

- Review & present development petitions (Planning Committee)
- Update BEQI
- Provide input to Planning on quarterly revision of UDO

Calendar (**Boldface indicates major EC projects for the year**)

Year-round	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advocate for environmental protection and sustainable development practices: take care to employ UDO, make a consistent presence at City Council and Plan Commission meetings.</li> <li>2. Conduct Energy Forums with Commission on Sustainability (EC Education Committee)</li> <li>3. Follow up with Mayor's office and City Council on any EC vacancies</li> <li>4. Coordinate with the Commission on Sustainability</li> </ol>
January	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Create EC Green Building Committee and fill other standing committees</li> </ol>
February	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Present the BEQI at a City Council meeting (EC BEQI committee with Interns)</li> </ol> <p><i>Consider preliminary 2008 budget</i>  <i>Begin planning for Earth Week (EC Education Committee)</i></p>
March	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Submit realistic budget request for 2008 (EC Budget Committee)</li> <li>8. Conduct 3-month update of BEQI (Interns w/ EC)</li> <li>9. Send EC representative to Randall Arendt's workshop in Richmond, IN on 3/21</li> <li>10. Provide input to Planning on 3-month revision of UDO</li> <li><b>11. Complete and vote on natural landscaping brochure &amp; fact sheets &amp; issue press release (Interns w/ EC)</b></li> </ol> <p><i>Plan for Earth Week in April (EC Education Committee) *Consider showing 'Edens Lost &amp; Found' DVDs *Check with Mayor's office about city Earth Week plans</i></p>
April	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>12. Submit H-T editorial on natural landscaping &amp; present natural landscaping brochure &amp; fact sheets to City Council (Interns w/ EC)</b></li> <li><b>13. Complete and vote on update of EC Greenspace Report &amp; issue press release (Interns w/ EC, Planning)</b></li> <li>14. Participate in Earth Week</li> </ol>
May	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>15. Submit H-T editorial on greenspace &amp; ecosystem services &amp; present update of EC Greenspace Report to City Council (Interns w/ EC)</b></li> </ol>
June	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>16. Complete and vote on Green Building Ordinance &amp; issue press release (EC Green Building Committee)</b></li> <li>17. Reassess goals for the year and evaluate progress - ? Special Meeting?</li> </ol>
July	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>18. Submit H-T editorial on green building &amp; present Green Building Ordinance to the City Council (EC Green Building Committee)</b></li> </ol>
August	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>19. Begin work on Green Building Local Resource Guide (Interns w/ EC Green Building Committee)</b></li> </ol> <p><i>Begin planning for Simply Living Fair/Bioneers (EC Education Committee)</i></p>
September	<p><i>Plan for Simply Living Fair/Bioneers (EC Education Committee)</i></p>
October	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20. Participate in Simply Living Fair/Bioneers</li> </ol>
November	
December	